

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Yoshio KANESAWA et al.

Application No.: New U.S. Patent Application

Filed: December 5, 2003

Docket No.: 117939

For: RELIEF SMOOTHING APPARATUS, FIXING DEVICE, AND IMAGE FORMING
APPARATUS

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

- ☒ 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the U.S. filing date of this non-CPA application, OR (b) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the present application. No certification or fee is required.
- ☒ 2. The present application was filed or entered the U.S. National Stage of the PCT after June 30, 2003. In accordance with the June 11, 2003, Notice waiving the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2)(i), copies of any U.S. patents and patent application publications are not attached.
- ☒ 3. English-language Abstracts of the non-English language references 2-4 are attached hereto.
- ☒ 4. A computer-generated English translation of the following Japanese Patent Publication has been obtained from the website of the Japanese Patent Office (<http://www.jpo.go.jp>), and is attached, but has not been reviewed for accuracy. See Reference 2.

Respectfully submitted,


James A. Oliff
Registration No. 27,075

Joel S. Armstrong
Registration No. 36,430

JAO:JSA/smk

Date: December 5, 2003

OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC

P.O. Box 19928

Alexandria, Virginia 22320

Telephone: (703) 836-6400

**DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE
AUTHORIZATION**

Please grant any extension
necessary for entry;

Charge any fee due to our
Deposit Account No. 15-0461

Form PTO-1449 (REV. 8-83)		US Dept. of Commerce PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY DOCKET NO. 117939		APPLICATION NO. New U.S. Patent Application	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (Use several sheets if necessary)				APPLICANTS Yoshio KANESAWA et al.			
				FILING DATE December 5, 2003			
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	
	1	5,516,394	5/14/1996	RIMAI et al.			
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB CLASS	
	2	JP A 2002-091048 w/ Abst & Trans	3/27/2002	Japan			
	3	JP A 61-122666 w/ Abstract	6/10/1986	Japan			
	4	JP A 61-122665 w/ Abstract	6/10/1986	Japan			
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)							
EXAMINER					DATE CONSIDERED		
Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.							

Date: December 5, 2003